

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, U.S. Customs and Border Protection currently possesses a very large fleet of unmanned aerial systems, or UAS's. Certainly, this technology can be a valuable asset. We want them to use it to our benefit on the border to enforce border security.

Between 2010 and 2012, the CBP flew nearly 700 missions on behalf of other Federal, State, and local agencies. They were not flying the border, in other words. As a matter of fact, some agencies have absolutely nothing to do with border security, such as the U.S. Forest Service and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

I have researched this issue, Mr. Speaker, and found no codified procedures for how DHS loans their drones out. Certainly, the use of drones for unapproved purposes is unacceptable and poses a myriad of civil liberty concerns, not to mention the fact that it potentially abuses taxpayer dollars, Mr. Speaker.

We need to ensure proper oversight is conducted, civil liberties are upheld, and taxpayer dollars aren't squandered.

HONORING MASTER SERGEANT ALBERTO SANTIAGO

(Mr. GARCIA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor U.S. Army Reserve Master Sergeant Alberto Santiago from Homestead, Florida, who has served our country with courage and honor for over 40 years.

During his career, Master Sergeant Santiago has deployed to Kuwait, Iraq, Djibouti, Niger, Somalia, and many other countries in the Horn of Africa and is a veteran of Operations Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom, Desert Shield, and New Dawn.

For his service, he received the Bronze Star, Kuwait Liberation Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, and the Combat Action Badge. Master Sergeant Santiago and his family have made tremendous sacrifices in the defense of our country.

As Master Sergeant Santiago retires from the U.S. Army Reserve, I would like to honor his service and wish him the best in all his future endeavors and extend the thanks of a grateful Nation.

THE WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES RULE

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the EPA and Army Corps of Engineers' proposed regulation "the waters of the United States rule."

Undoubtedly, we all want and rightfully deserve clean water and healthy

watersheds, especially those that make their living off the land, whether through farming, natural resource development and harvesting, or recreation and tourism.

The EPA suggested that expanding the reach of the Clean Water Act is necessary, yet they have not illustrated a clear end of the jurisdiction they seek. As a result, many are concerned about the threat to private property rights, active land management, agriculture, and energy development—especially in rural communities.

Without direct input from stakeholders and the legislative process, these new regulations would circumvent congressional approval, with limited transparency.

Economists have suggested the EPA has systematically underestimated the economic impact that may occur. Counties across the country are concerned about losing control over their ability for local planning and fear additional mandates from Washington, with little guidance or economic incentives.

Mr. Speaker, the American people elected the representatives of this body to preside over the making of law. An agency cannot rule by fiat.

The American people deserve better.

CELEBRATING NEW JERSEY'S 350TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. HOLT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the State of New Jersey, which is celebrating her 350th anniversary this year.

Tomorrow, I will introduce in the House a resolution with all the members of the New Jersey House delegation commemorating our State's rich heritage and this 350th anniversary milestone. It is my understanding that Senator MENENDEZ will be introducing a similar resolution.

Since its founding in the year 1664, New Jersey has played an instrumental role in the establishment of our country, serving as the location of more military engagements than any other colony and becoming the first State to ratify the Bill of Rights.

New Jersey authors and artists have forever enhanced our country's cultural landscape. Of course, the charm of our State's physical landscape and shoreline cannot be overstated.

New Jersey has long served as a cauldron of innovation, supporting leading scientists and innovators in the development of groundbreaking technologies and medicines.

I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating New Jersey's history of innovation, liberty, and diversity this year and every year.

PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF ASIAN CARP

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to highlight the bipartisan action that Congress has taken recently to stop invasive species like Asian carp from jeopardizing Minnesota's ecological and economic health.

The invasive Asian carp is more than a nuisance. It is a danger to over 158 different species of fish and is threatening Minnesota's thriving tourism industry, an industry that generates \$11 billion in annual sales and supports thousands of jobs.

In addition to the economic impact, continued expansion of the Asian carp into our waterways will mean less recreational opportunities to enjoy Minnesota's beautiful lakes, rivers, and waterways.

Thankfully, Mr. Speaker, Congress took action to help stop the spread of this invasive fish by passing legislation requiring the closure of the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam, helping prevent Asian carp from swimming upstream into Minnesota's northern waterways.

While more can be done, Mr. Speaker, to solve our problems with invasive species, this provision is an important step in preserving our aquatic ecosystems. I would like to thank my colleagues in the Minnesota delegation for coming together on this issue.

TERRORIST ACTIVITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MASSIE). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, a great deal has been going on in the last 24 hours—a lot of surprises—which help make life interesting.

Mr. Speaker, I want to call to attention, again, the human tragedy that has arisen in Africa—and Nigeria specifically—as I was there at the end of last week for a couple of days meeting with some of the mothers of girls who were kidnapped.

There was an excellent story in *The Blaze* done by Sara Carter today where she says:

Precious and Hope—two girls' names—ran for their lives through the thick brush of the Nigerian forest. They could feel their hearts pounding, their bare feet scraped from the rocks, and their legs throbbing from the thorns that penetrated their skin as they crawled low through the tangle to avoid detection.

□ 1915

They were running from the armed Islamist fighters who had seized them and approximately 300 other schoolgirls from what they had believed was the safety of their boarding school in Chibok, Nigeria, in one of the most brazen mass kidnappings in history. Only the night before, the two 15-year-olds had been sleeping peacefully. It was mid-April, and many of the girls had chosen to try to stay cool by sleeping underneath the night sky in only their shirts and